

TO: Chairman and Members

DATE: March 10, 2011

**SUBJECT: Title II Formula Block Grant
Request for Qualifications (RFQ)**

AGENDA ITEM: F

**ACTION: X
INFORMATION:**

RESOURCE PERSON: Shalinee Hunter

Summary: At the recommendation of the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP), this agenda item seeks Corrections Standards Authority (CSA) Board approval to release a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) as the first phase of a competitive process that will award Title II Formula Block Grant funds to juvenile justice constituents and eligible applicants throughout the state.

Background:

The Title II Formula Grant program supports state and local efforts in planning, operating, and evaluating projects that prevent at-risk youth from entering the juvenile justice system and/or intervene with first-time and non-serious offenders to provide services that maximize their chances of leading productive, successful lives. Through an application and planning process, California receives approximately \$7 million annually in Title II Formula Grants funds from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Roughly \$4.5 million, of the \$7 million received annually must be awarded on a competitive basis, using criteria developed by the State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (SACJJDP). Resultant sub-grants must be consistent with the purpose and intent of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act - the federal statute that supports states in delinquency prevention and intervention and the enhancement of the effectiveness and efficiency of the juvenile justice system.

On October 13, 2010, the SACJJDP approved establishment of an Executive Steering Committee (ESC) (Attachment A) and timeline necessary to support administration of a Title II Formula Grant – Request for Proposal (RFP). Title II Formula Grant funds are the largest federal allocation California receives to directly address juvenile delinquency prevention, intervention and system improvements. Additionally, California historically receives the largest allocation among all other states and territories for these purposes.

To manage the scope of the highly anticipated Title II RFP staff has worked in consultation with CSA Researcher, Dr. John Kohls (creator of the Grant Proposal Evaluation Process), to develop a process that will ensure fairness and equity across the State. As such, the process will consist of two phases.

In Phase I, an applicant will be required to submit a qualifications document based upon a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) (Attachment B) to be issued by the CSA, describing their proposed program. The RFQ will require applicants to provide the following information:

1. A program description;
2. A description of aspects of the program design; and
3. A fact sheet for describing various aspects of the applicant's organization.

The Title II ESC members will review and evaluate each qualifications document and determine the top 30 ranked applicants that will be invited to compete in Phase II of the proposal evaluation process.

In Phase II of the proposal evaluation process, the top ranked applicants will be asked to provide a more detailed description of their program (a maximum of eight pages will be allowed). Applicants will then be ranked based upon the contents of the proposals against rating criteria approved by the SACJJD. Final award decisions will be brought forward to the CSA Board for consideration. Grant funds will be awarded in rank order until the \$4.5 million has been fully allocated.

Recommendations: Staff recommends the CSA Board approve the release of Phase I of the Title II Formula Block Grant – Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to eligible applicants throughout the state.